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MARYLAND ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

Baltimore, Jan'y. 29th. - 1880.

Dr. Ges. M. Engelmann,

Fochward!

My dear Sir,-

I ask'd, at the last

Meeting of our Academy for an explanation of the Phenomenon as witnessed at Helena, Montana, — and described to me by a lady, of a hot wind, coming up with the suddenness of a Texas "Norther," and blowing with great force for several hours, when the thermometer before its approach is ~~for~~ perhaps from  $45^{\circ}$  to  $60^{\circ}$  — and melting every vestige of the snow and ice, which accumulate there to great depths.

No one at our meeting could explain this singular wind or give its cause or the location of its inception.

Mr. Otto Lugger, our custodian, said a similar wind sometimes visits certain portions of Arizona, and he recollects an explanation being given of the phenomena at one of your Meetings some years since, and kindly gave me your address, with the hope that you could give me an explanation or solution of it.

My relation is the daughter of an army officer who was stationed at Helena last winter. She informs me that



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They occur sometimes three or four times during the winter. The sudden melting of so much snow and ice causes great damage to shacks, roads, etc., etc.

They call it there, she says "Chinook" - as nearly as I can spell her pronunciation of the word. It is apparently a French word given it by the trappers and half-breeds.

I would thank you to give me the solution and trust I may have an opportunity to reciprocate your kindness at some future time. With an apology for this troubling you,

Sincerely,

Very respectfully,

Edgar H.  
(Rec. Secy to, M. A. G.)

P. O. Box 2525 Baltimore



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George Engelmann Herbarium  
Missouri Botanical Garden



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